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|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/629,750 | DROSSOS, WILLIAM | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Stephen L. Blau | 3711 | |

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 8/5/04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/30/03
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/5/04.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Anthony C. Edwards on 29 July 2003 and with his assistant again on 5 August 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- a. On page 1 line 6 after the date "July 17,2002" the words -- now abandoned -- have been added.
- b. In claim 1 line 12 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- c. In claim 1 line 13 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- d. In claim 1 line 14 after the words "in the other of said sections" the words -- wherein entire said annular flange is received in said relief -- have been added.
- e. In claim 5 line 3 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.

- f. In claim 5 line 5 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- g. In claim 6 line 1 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- h. In claim 6 line 4 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- i. In claim 7 line 4 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- j. In claim 8 line 12 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- k. In claim 8 line 14 after the words "in the other of said sections" the words -- wherein entire said annular flange is received in said relief -- have been added.
- l. In claim 12 line 3 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- m. In claim 12 line 7 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- n. In claim 12 line 9 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- o. In claim 12 line 10 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- p. In claim 12 lines 12-13 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.

- q. In claim 12 line 13 the word "receiver" has been replaced by the word -- relief --.
- r. In claim 13 line 4 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- s. In claim 13 line 6 the words "non circular" have been replaced by the word -- non-circular --.
- t. In claim 14 line 1 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- u. In claim 14 line 2 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- v. In claim 15 line 3 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- w. In claim 16 line 1 the words "bi axis" have been replaced by the word -- bi-axis --.
- x. In claim 16 line 2 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- y. In claim 16 line 3 the words "bi axis" have been replaced by the word -- bi-axis --.
- z. In claim 18 line 2 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- aa. In claim 18 line 3 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.
- bb. In claim 19 line 1 the words "bi axis" have been replaced by the word

-- bi-axis --.

cc. In claim 19 line 2 the words "non round" have been replaced by the word -- non-round --.

dd. In claim 19 line 3 the words "bi axis" have been replaced by the word -- bi-axis --.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art discloses or renders as obvious first and second sections non-rotatably mountable to each other by a male correspondingly shaped non circular annular flange slibably mating into a female non circular flange relief wherein entire said annular flange is received in said relief in addition to other elements of structure claimed. Palmer discloses first and second sections non-rotatably mountable to each other by a male correspondingly shaped non circular annular flange (Ref. No. 45, Fig. 9A) slibably mating into a female non circular flange relief (Ref. No. 46, Fig. 9A). Palmer does not disclose the entire annular flange received in a relief. Palmer only discloses the bottom part of the flange received in a relief.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (703) 308-2712. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Greg Vidovich whose telephone number is (703) 308-1513. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858. (TC 3700 Official Fax 703-872-9306)

slb/ 5 August 2004

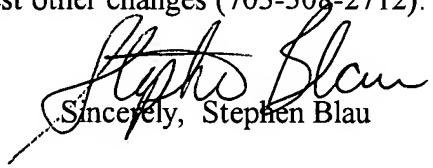


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

FAX

To: Mr. Anthony C. Edwards (Reg. No. 40,288)
From: Stephen Blau (Patent and Trademark Office)
Date: 12 July 2004
Encl: This and one other page
Subj: 10/629,750 (Attorney Docket No. ACE-18914)

This proposed amendment (enclosure (1)) having an entire annular flange received in a relief would overcome Palmer (U.S. 4,664,382) which has part of the annular flange being non circular and part of the flange inserted into a relief. However the entire flange of Palmer is not received in the relief. Please call me to agree and suggest other changes (703-308-2712).



Sincerely, Stephen Blau

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 - c. In claim 8 line 14 after the words "in the other of said sections" the words -- wherein entire said annular flange is received in said relief -- have been added.
 - d. In claim 12 line 13 the word "receiver" has been replaced by the word -- relief --.